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***NEWS From:***

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**Congressman Mike Honda**

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FIFTEENTH DISTRICT - CALIFORNIA

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**House Approves Boehlert-Honda \$2.36 Billion  
Nanotechnology Legislation**

***Bill to Boost Silicon Valley Economy***

WASHINGTON, May 7, 2003 - Today, the full House passed H.R. 766, the Nanotechnology Research and Development Act of 2003, by a vote of 405 to 19. The legislation, authored by Science Committee Chairman Sherwood Boehlert (R-NY) and Rep. Mike Honda (D-San Jose), authorizes \$2.36 billion over the next three years for nanotechnology research and development programs at the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Department of Energy (DOE), the Department of Commerce, NASA, and the Environmental Protection Agency. The NSF conservatively predicts a \$1 trillion global market for nanotechnology in little over a decade.

“The funding for nanotechnology research and development will fuel the growth and maturation of the industry, and will lead to the three most important priorities in Silicon Valley--jobs, jobs, jobs,” said Rep. Honda. “Nanotechnology has the potential to become a \$1 trillion global market in a little over 10 years, and as such, countries around the world are in a race to develop their nanotechnology industries. It is imperative that in this race, the U.S. must be first across the finish line.”

“Nanotechnology is a subject on which there is already broad agreement - on both sides of the aisle, in the Administration, and indeed in the country at large. Nanotechnology can be a key to future economic prosperity and might improve our lives, and the federal government has an important role to play in supporting the basic research that will make this possible. Our legislation does just that, and passage of this bill is a big step for a ‘small’ science,” said Rep. Boehlert

The bill provides a formal structure for coordination of research across the agencies, emphasizes interdisciplinary research, addresses societal concerns raised by nanotechnology, requires outside reviews of the program, promotes efforts to commercialize nanotechnology applications, and provides incentives for U.S. citizens and legal residents to pursue degrees in science and engineering.

The National Association of Manufacturers, Semiconductor Industry Association, Association for Computing Machinery, Computing Research Association, Nanobusiness Alliance, Alliance for Science and Technology Research in America, Institute of Electronics and Electrical Engineers, IBM, Intel Corporation, and Hewlett-Packard have endorsed the legislation.

Intel Corporation’s Douglas B. Comer stated, “H.R. 766 is one of the critical ‘foundation stones’ for continued American leadership in the development of new technologies and the industries that flow from those technologies. Without the resources needed to carry forward the basic research, we risk losing the lead in this growth technology to foreign competitors who are devoting higher percentages of their GDP to basic research than the U.S.”

The text of the bill and a section-by-section can be found at the Science Committee website at [www.house.gov/science](http://www.house.gov/science). For additional information on the federal government’s nanotechnology research initiatives, log on to [www.nano.gov](http://www.nano.gov).